

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

318 ST. CHARLES STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802
TELEPHONE (225) 343-0100
FAX (225) 343-0344
E-MAIL BATES@SDMBLAW.COM

1018 HARDING STREET, SUITE 104
P. O. BOX 53319
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70505-3319
TELEPHONE (337) 237-5900
FAX (337) 233-9095

JAMES C. BATES
PARTNER
BATON ROUGE OFFICE

P. O. BOX 550407
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77255
TELEPHONE: (713) 681-9746
FAX (713) 681-9747

July 9, 2004

Hon. James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
P. O. Box 94275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A, Duson
Field, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

Application is hereby made on behalf of Noble Energy, Inc. to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing, after legal notice, pertaining to the following matters relative to the Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A, Duson Field, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A, Duson Field, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana;
2. To create three (3) drilling and production units for the Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A designated as the NS RA SUA, SUB and SUC, as shown on the plat attached hereto;
3. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the unit so created on a surface acreage basis of participation;
4. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;
5. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A.

The Nonion Struma Zone, Reservoir A, in the Duson Field, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, is hereby defined as being that gas and condensate bearing zone encountered between the depths of 13,740 feet and 14,450 feet (electrical log measurements) in the Hunt Oil Company (Secure Trusts)-C. Mouton No. 1 Well, located in Section 20, Township 9 South, Range 3 East, Acadia Parish, Louisiana.

No request for the pre-application conference was received, and accordingly it **WILL NOT BE HELD**.

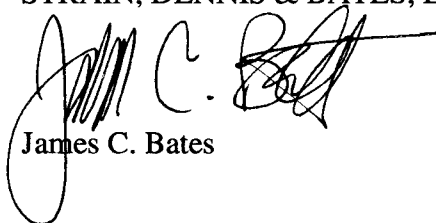
In addition to furnishing the legal notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, the applicant will provide for posting of the legal notice and unit plat in a prominent place in the area of Duson Field. Additionally, the legal notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of Duson Field at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date.

All pertinent data relating to this proposed application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from Cutright & Hardwick, P. O. Box 80972, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598-0972, (337) 232-7756.

Attached hereto and made a part hereof are a plat outlining the proposed units in the Duson Field, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, and a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this application is being sent. Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure, said plat and list are being sent to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY**. However, copies of the plat and/or list will be provided to any party upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties. Also enclosed is our check payable to the Office of Conservation representing the required hearing application fee.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.



James C. Bates

JCB/cmf
enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson
District Manager

Interested Parties
Interested Owners
Represented Parties

